



***In Cooperation With:***

**U.S. Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
U.S. Department of Commerce/N.O.A.A.  
Rutgers University**

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Days suitable for field work for the week ending Sunday, October 17, 2004, were 6.0. There was some rainfall across most of the state during the week, and there was a report of a minor hail storm Saturday in some southern localities. Soil moisture was rated 95% adequate and 5% short. Fieldwork included harvesting field corn for grain, soybeans, fruit, and vegetables. Planting of fall harvest cover crops continued where conditions allowed. Field clean-up progressed with pruning of peach trees, mowing, and disking. Apple harvest continued across the state, and there was a report that it was necessary to spray for borers in the southern district. Cranberry harvest continued. Salivation syndrome remained a problem due to moldy pasture forage.

Temperatures averaged near normal north, and below normal central and south, averaging 51 degrees north, 53 degrees central, and 53 degrees south. Extremes were 70 degrees at Charlotteburg and Long Branch on October 12, 2004, and October 14, 2004, and 30 degrees at Freehold on October 12, 2004.

Weekly rain fall averaged 0.58 inches north, 0.29 inches central, and 0.60 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 0.62 at Charlotteburg on October 15, 2004, through October 16, 2004.

Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 76 percent north, 68 percent central, and 59 percent south.

Four inch soil temperatures averaged 53 degrees north, 55 degrees central, and 55 degrees south.

Weather Stations	Rainfall			Temperatures				Growing Degree Days 1/		Soil Moisture 2/
	Last Week	Since March 1		Last Week						
		Total	Dept.*	Max.	Min.	Avg.	Dept.*	Total	Dept.*	
- Inches -			- Degrees -				- Base 50°F -			
NORTH										
Belvidere Bridge	.57	41.81	11.35	68	37	52	0	3105	408	84
Canoe Brook				Data Not Available						
Charlotteburg	.86	36.14	3.52	70	35	51	1	2913	789	83
Flemington	.47	40.55	10.01	67	38	52	0	3117	332	79
Long Valley				Data Not Available						
Newton	.43	31.91	2.15	65	34	50	0	2661	285	75
CENTRAL										
Freehold	.35	33.01	3.29	69	30	51	-3	3330	327	78
Long Branch	.34	30.83	.73	70	39	54	-1	3201	253	62
New Brunswick	.38	34.82	4.70	69	34	52	-3	3344	208	86
Toms River	.02	30.43	-.50	67	36	54	-1	3462	519	50
Trenton	.36	32.95	4.57	66	40	53	-3	3430	159	71
SOUTH										
Cape May C.H.	.55	23.48	-3.22	64	39	54	-4	3323	256	47
Downtown	.44	25.37	-2.51	66	35	52	-4	3514	210	62
Glassboro	.57	42.54	13.10	66	40	54	-1	3604	354	72
Hammonton	.64	29.01	-.31	68	36	54	-1	3640	387	77
Pomona	.77	25.86	-.59	66	35	53	-2	3482	460	75
Seabrook	.63	31.36	4.32	66	36	53	-3	3876	550	71
South Harrison	.02	31.41	2.64	66	42	54	N/A	3697	N/A	N/A

\*Departure from normal.

I/ Growing degree days since March 1, 2004, total and departure from normal or long term average.

2/ Estimated soil moisture as % of field capacity based on climate data.

## **JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR OCTOBER 18, 2004**

**Acorn & Spaghetti Squash** - Harvesting a good volume of good quality product.

**Baby Arugula & Baby Spinach** - Harvesting in good quality and volume.

**Beets** - Harvesting good quality and volume. Should have good quality and volume into November or a hard freeze.

**Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, & Cauliflower** - Harvesting good quality and quantity in Central New Jersey.

**Butternut Squash** - Harvesting a fair to good volume of good quality product.

**Cabbage** - Good quality Red, Savoy, and Green being harvested in major quantities.

**Cilantro & Parsley** - Harvesting good quality and volume. Should have good quality and volume into the beginning of November.

**Cranberries** - This year's crop is an average size crop with excellent quality and smaller than average size berries. Our growers are harvesting mature red berries now, in good volume. Although 90+% of our cranberries are "wet harvested" and sold to the Ocean Spray Cooperative, we have increased amounts of high quality dry harvested red and white berries available each year due to increased consumer demand.

**Cucumbers** - Harvesting good quality in fair and decreasing volume as cooler temperatures slow ripening.

**Eggplant** - Harvesting good quality product in light and decreasing volume as cooler temperatures slow ripening.

**Escarole/Endive** - Harvesting a good volume of good quality product with the fall crop.

**Green Onions** - Good quality and fair volume.

**Greens** - Good quality and volume of Collards, Kholrabi, Kale, Mustard, Broccoli Raab, and Swiss Chard. Should have good quality and volume into November or a hard freeze.

**Leeks** - Good quality being harvested in good volume.

**Lettuces** - Harvesting good quality Boston, Green & Red Leaf, Romaine, and Iceberg lettuces in good volume.

**Peppers** - Harvesting good quality product in fair and decreasing volume as cooler temperatures slow ripening.

**Pickles** (Kirby cucumbers) - Good quality and fair and decreasing quantity available as cooler temperatures slow ripening.

**Pumpkins** - We'll have less supply again this year with wholesale prices proportionately higher. The cool and wet spring caused late planting and a light fruit set. Then we had some periods of steady mid-summer rainfall that led to disease producing conditions.

**Spinach** - Harvesting good quality in fair to good volume with the fall crop. Quality seems to get better as the weather gets cooler.

**Squashes** - Fair to good quality Yellow and Zucchini are being harvested in fair quantity with the fall crop.

**Sweet Corn** - Harvesting fair quality in light and decreasing availability as cooler temperatures slow ripening. Quality varies now due to insect pressures.

**Sweet Potatoes** - Harvesting good quality and quantity.

**Tomatoes** - Fair and decreasing quantity and good quality still available as cooler temperatures slow ripening.

**White Potatoes** - The Redskin variety Norland and Superior round white varieties being harvested. There is a large crop of good quality potatoes this year. Source your New Jersey white potatoes in their distinctive "Jersey Fresh" bags.